The A. F. of L. Weekly News Service gives news concerns and editorial interpretations of matters affecting labor concerning in the industrial, legislative, and judicial fields, and contains other information of benefit to the trade union movement.

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

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To be seventy years young is sometimes far more cheerful and hopeful than to be forty years old.
—Oliver Wendell Holmes.

WHOLE NO. 1426 WILLIAM GREEN, President WASHINGTON, D. C., SATURDAY, AUGUST 13, 1938 FRANK MORRISON, Secretary-Treasurer VOL. 28, NO. 33

BEWARE of FALSE PROPHETS

Be On Your Guard Against Communists and Their Followers.

By FRANK DUFFY

First Vice-President of the American Federation of Labor

An organization known as The Association of Catholic Trades Unionists was organized by a group of Catholic men in February, 1937. Its objects were to foster, spread and promote in the American labor movement sound trade unionism along Christian principles, first by bringing to Catholic workers in particular and all workers in general a knowledge of these principles, and second by training leaders and supplying an organization to put these principles into practice.

This is a laudable movement and its objects are highly commendable.

There is no religious body better equipped or more capable of assisting in this work than the Catholic Church, but in doing so it must be on its guard at all times and it must direct The Association of Catholic Trades Unionists along right lines or dire results may follow.

COMMUNIST SUBTERFUGE IN SEEKING CATHOLIC SUPPORT

This Catholic Association may be taken advantage of, and no doubt will, by the unscrupulous in our midst who are at all times watching for an opening and an opportunity to advance their own objects, aims, purposes and interests irrespective of the means used. We note that the Communists have already made a move in that direction and have resorted to subterfuge in their bid for Catholic support and cooperation.

At the Tenth National Convention of the Communist Party of the United States, held in New York City last May (1938); it was decided to increase the membership of the Party by the enrollment of Catholics, particularly those of the working class.

Earl Browder, Secretary of the Communist Party, devoted much time to this subject. In his appeal for Catholic support he said:

"Within the camp of democracy are included the great majority of the members of the Catholic Church. We Communists extend the hand of 'brotherly cooperation' to them and express our pleasure of finding ourselves fighting shoulder to shoulder with them for the same economic and social aims."

He then referred to conditions in Spain and declared that,

"The Communists are not against the Catholics of Spain. On the contrary, they are with them in their opposition to their disloyal shepherds and expoliters."

What hypocracy! What deception! What camouflage! Browder knows, and so do all Communists, that Catholicism is the greatest stumbling block in the world today to the progress of Communism.

Does he forget that last April (1938) all the Communists in the United States were advised to "combat the Catholic Church"? Does he forget that Yaroslavsky, the leader of The World Union of the Godless, said recently in the Russian Communist newspaper, "Pravda," that

"An international Communist anti-religious center must be created with a view to assist the Communist Parties of each country in their increasing class struggle against religion and the priests—this struggle is a class struggle and is absolutely necessary."

Browder, the Russian trained Communist, the Secretary of the Communist Party of the United States, the strategist who extended the hand of "brotherly cooperation" to Catholics, knows that Communism and Catholicism won't mix. Neither he nor any subordinate officer or member of the Communist Party can disregard or oppose the policy of the Dictators of the Communist Party under penalty of expulsion.

COMMUNIST PARTY OPPOSES RELIGION

Let me remind Mr. Browder that the leaders of the Communist Party have made their position very clear on the question of religion. Lenin said:

"Everything is moral which can serve the Communist Party. We hate Christianity and Christians. Even the best of them must be regarded as our worst enemies."

Stalin said:

"Communism will bring about the natural death of religion. Religion is the opium of the people. Christianity and Socialism have nothing in common."

And again Stalin said:

"We carry on and will continue to carry on our propaganda against religious prejudices. The Communist Party can not be neutral toward religion and must conduct anti-religious propaganda against all and every religious prejudice because it stands for Science, while religious prejudice is repugnant to Science, because all religion is something opposite to Science. The Party can not be neutral toward the bearers of religious prejudices, toward the reactionary clergy who poison the minds of the toiling masses. Have we suppressed the reactionary clergy? Yes, we have. The unfortunate thing is that it has not been completely liquidated. The religious propaganda is the means by which the complete liquidation of the reactionary clergy must be brought about."

Soln, a high Soviet official, said:

"Faith in God, whether it be Jewish or Catholic, only weakens the will of men for the fight. All Gods are the same poison. War without quarter should be declared on all."

COMMUNIST GOAL IS DESTRUCTION OF RELIGION

Bukharin, a leader of the Communist International, Editor of "Pravda," a great Theorist, wrote a book under the caption, "The A B C of Communism" in which he said:

"All religions are one and the same poison, intoxicating and deadening the mind, the will, the conscience.

"A fight to the death must be declared upon Religion.

"Our task is not to reform, but to destroy all kinds of religion, all kinds of morality.

"There are some soft-headed Communists who say that their religion does not prevent them from being Communists. They say that they believe both in God and in Communism. Such a view is fundamentally wrong. Religion and Communism do not go together either in theory or in practice. Between the principles of Communism and those of the Christian religion there is an impassible barrier."

In a booklet on Religion recently issued from the Communist Headquarters, New York City, it is said that,

"The priests of every cult have their own way of deluding the masses: the Jewish Rabbi the Roman Catholic Priest, the Russian Orthodox Priest, the Mohammedan Mullah, the Evangelist, Baptist and other ministers of religion, each has his own way of fooling the people. We must therefore convince the masses that Communism and religion can not go together; that it is not possible to be a Communist and at the same time believe in devils, or gods, in heavenly creatures, in the saints. It is impossible to be a Communist and at the same time go to church and listen to the lies of the priests and take part in the performances of religious rites, that is, give support to this religious hokus-pokus."

BROWDER'S "SOFT-HEADED" COMMUNISM

In the face of all this, Earl Browder, the Communist Secretary, now offers to Catholics the hand of fellowship and cooperation and tells them there is nothing in Communism contrary to Catholic teaching. Evidently he must be one of the soft-headed Communists referred to by Bukharin.

There is no use quoting any others. Everyone knows that Communist Russia is "The Land of the Godless." They advocate that, instead of it being a land of glory in it. They have already organized "The Union of the Godless" and have held what they call a God-less Convention. They propose to hold such conventions in other countries. It may not be long until they hold one in America.

ELIZABETH GURLEY FLYNN'S "CAMOUFLAGE"

Now comes the case of Elizabeth Gurley Flynn. The "Daily Worker," the official organ of the Communist Party of the United States of America, published in New York City, on July 12, 1938, carried the story on page 3, sixth column, that Elizabeth Gurley Flynn, well-known woman Communist leader, spoke in Erie, Pennsylvania, on July 12th, 1938, over a local radio network and appealed to the Catholic working people to form a

"fighting comradeship with the Communists for the defense of political, economic and social rights."

She quoted from Browder's message to Catholics delivered at the Tenth National Convention of the Communist Party last May (1938) in New York City. She declared:

"The outstretched hand policy of the French Communists has been vigorously upheld by the French Catholics in the fight against Fascism and war."

She then referred to the attempts of the Catholic hierarchy to divide and repress the democratic aspirations of the working people. She called on the American Catholic people to follow the example of their French brothers

"who responded by the millions to the call for Communist-Catholic unity, for peace and freedom."

This is some more soft-soaping, some more camouflage. As a Communist leader, she knows different. She knows perfectly well that Communists have no use whatever for Catholics. We can put her down as one of the soft-headed Communists Bukharin refers to.

JOHN BROPHY'S COMMUNIST RECORD

In the "Daily Worker" of July 1, 1938, it is reported that a Labor Forum was held by The Association of Catholic Trade Unionists in the auditorium of Our Lady of Refuge Church, 196th Street and Briggs Avenue, Bronx, New York City, on Wednesday night, June 29th, 1938, at which a leading Catholic layman, John Brophy, spoke. Who is John Brophy? Let the records of the United Mine Workers of America tell—a member of the United Mine Workers of America—the bitterest opponent John L. Lewis ever had—a radical at all times—a leader in "The Save The Union Committee" organized within the United Mine Workers of America several years ago to save that union from the machinations of John L. Lewis. The United Mine Workers' Journal of May 1st, 1928 said:

"For months past, The Save The Union Committee' under the leadership of John Brophy, Powers Hapgood and a few others has been doing its dirtiest to capture the United Mine Workers and to transfer that splendid union into a Communist organization. In carrying out this campaign 'The Save The Union Committee' has had the full and complete support and assistance of the entire Communist element in America and foreign countries including Russia."

Brophy afterwards went to Russia as a member of one of the first trade union delegations to visit that country. This delegation was sponsored by the Communist Party of the United States and approved by Moscow. After he returned the Mine Workers' Journal accused him of being a paid agent of the Soviet Government, declaring in an editorial that

"The Save The Union Committee' became extremely busy in its efforts to wreck the United Mine Workers shortly after John Brophy returned from Russia—like the very minute he came back—it seemed to have plenty of money. It should not be difficult to guess where part of the money came from to finance the campaign of destruction."

Besides that, Brophy is quoted as saying at a meeting in New York City, shortly after his return from Russia that,

"The conditions of the workers in Russia ought to shame us. The general situation in the Soviet Union should be a source of inspiration to the workers of America and the whole world."

From this statement it is evident he came back a convinced and confirmed Communist. At any rate he has been playing with them ever since and is now a member of the Director of the Committee for Industrial Organization, appointed as such by John L. Lewis.

COMMUNIST "INDUSTRIAL UNIONISM"

Industrial Unionism is a pet hobby of the Communists. That is their method of organising, and that method they have followed out for many years.

A special committee of Congress to investigate "Communistic activities in the United States" reported its findings to the House on January 17, 1931, in which we find on page 27 that the Communists had organized the following Industrial Unions:

Agricultural Workers' Industrial Union.

Amalgamated Clothing Workers' Industrial Union.

Building and Maintenance Workers' Industrial Union.

National Construction Workers' Union.

Cleaning and Laundry Workers' Industrial Union.

National Packing House Workers' Industrial Union.

National Food Workers' Union.

National Fishermen's Industrial Union.

National Metal Workers' Industrial League.

Marine Workers' Industrial League.

National Railway Workers' Industrial League.

Needle Trades Workers' Industrial Union.

National Auto Workers' Industrial Union.

Lumber Workers' Industrial Union.

National Textile Workers' Union.

Shoe Workers' Union.

National Tobacco Workers' Union.

National Miners' Union.

Rubber Workers' Industrial Union.

Painters' Industrial Union.

Furniture Workers' Industrial Union.

Mineral, Smelters and Oil Workers' Industrial League, and numerous others less important to the American Federation of Labor.

"BORING-FROM-WITHIN" POLICY OF UNIONS

These unions never amounted to much. They were more a source of annoyance than anything else. They accomplished nothing whatever for the workers. Because the Communists had been disciplined by organized labor they abandoned the policy of "boring-from-within" and decided to speak for the workers. They have neither that right nor that authority. The American Federation of Labor is the only organization to represent labor and to speak for labor.

These Communist Industrial Unions dragged along until 1935. At the Seventh World Congress of the Communist International held in Moscow in July-August, 1935, Industrial Unions were abandoned and those who belonged to them directed:

"to become members of the American Federation of Labor unions and to bore from within, to be elected officers of those unions and delegates to City Central and State bodies, also to be elected delegates to all conventions, and by any, and all means, to get control of the labor movement as represented by the American Federation of Labor."

COMMUNISTS SUPPORT COMMITTEE FOR INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZATION

After that they ceased to exist. However, at the A. F. of L. Convention held in Atlantic City, New Jersey, in October, 1935, John L. Lewis, a man who formerly opposed Communism in all its forms, started the Committee for Industrial Organization. The Communists immediately took hold.

The "Daily Worker" of November 2, 1935, says:

"The Communists are decidedly for one trade union in each industry."

In the "Daily Worker" of November 28, 1935, William Z. Foster, head of the Communist Party of the United States, says:

"The workers can not be united nor can the unorganized be brought into the unions on any other basis than organization into industrial unions. The Communists will, as they always have, support with all their energy the movement for organizing the unorganized workers into industrial unions. The Communists advocate industrial unions."

In the "Daily Worker" of November 29, 1935, Earl Browder, General Secretary of the Communist Party of the United States, says:

"There were two camps at the 56th A. F. of L. Convention, one arrayed against the other.

"The issue which divided them was the issue of Industrial Unionism, the issue of the organization of the unorganized.

"On the industrial block were Democrats, Socialists and Communists and the sympathisers of the latter two. The group is fighting for a basic issue in the American working class—organizing the unorganized into industrial unions. This issue will be supported by us by all possible means. Communists and militant class conscious workers are a necessary part of the consistent struggle for Industrial Unionism."

FOSTER AND BROWDER OPPOSE A. F. OF L.

Foster and Browder, well known Communist leaders in the United States, have no love for the American Federation of Labor. They do not want to see it grow and prosper. They do not want to see it build up and develop. What they really want is to use the American Federation of Labor for their own aims and purposes—the building up and strengthening of the Communist Party in America at the expense of the trade union movement. Be careful of these so-called friendly advice. It does not come with good grace from those who bitterly and relentlessly fought the American Federation of Labor in the past.

In a pamphlet issued by the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the United States of America in the early part of 1936, signed by William Z. Foster, Chairman, and Earl Browder, General Secretary, it is said that,

"A struggle of the greatest importance throughout the entire American working class is now taking place within the American Federation of Labor around the issue of Industrial Unionism. In this struggle the Communist Party stands firmly on the side of those progressive forces which are fighting for Industrial Unionism. Throughout this struggle the Communist Party fought for the organization of the working class into industrial unions."

LEWIS APPOINTS COMMUNISTS AS C. I. O. ORGANIZERS

John L. Lewis threw his lot with the Communists and appointed some two hundred known Communists as organizers for the Committee for Industrial Organization, John Brophy being the leader and the director.

The C. I. O. is dominated by the Communists.

The "Miami News" of June 24, 1937, the following appeared under the caption "C. I. O. Steeped in Communism":

"Every newspaper one picks up nowadays contains reference to some incident or occurrence that shows the close connection between Communism and the Committee for Industrial Organization. The connection is so close it has been suggested that the name of Lewis' radical organization be changed to C. I. O. R.—Communism, Inc., for Russia—as more fitting and descriptive."

In "The Indianapolis News" of June 26, 1937, Boake Carter says:

"In the precincts of the American Federation of Labor the Communists have always been active. Their technique is to get control of a union by boring from within. These Communist leaders dragged along until 1935. At the Seventh World Congress of the Communist Internationals